

SPORT FISH RESTORATION & BOATING TRUST FUND



Key Conservation and Recreation Access User Pay-Public Benefits Fund must be reauthorized as part of the Surface Transportation Bill.

EIGHT YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ 3,800,000,000 fish stocked
- ▶ 11,000 boat ramps and access sites created & improved
- ▶ 4.7 million students taught aquatic education
- ▶ 63,337 acres of fish habitat protected

...and more!

Angling
& Boating
Alliance



The Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund serves as the backbone for fisheries conservation funding in the United States, and is a critical funding pool for a diverse set of important state and national recreational fishing and boating programs.

Taxes on fishing tackle and equipment, motorboat fuel, imported boats and fishing equipment, and small engines are pooled together to create this fund of about \$600 million a year. In turn, the money is then allocated to federal and state programs for recreational boating safety, fisheries management, habitat conservation, vessel pump-out stations, water and boating access infrastructure programs, and aquatic resource education programs, among others.

A BRIEF HISTORY:

The Sport Fish Restoration Fund was established in 1950. At its inception, it used a 10 percent federal manufacturers' excise tax on certain fishing equipment to fund projects designed to enhance sportfishing in all 50 states. The Recreational Boating Safety Program was established in 1971 to fund boating safety and education programs, and amended in 1980 to draw its funding from taxes on

motorboat fuels. These programs were combined in 1984 under the Wallop-Breaux amendment to the Act.

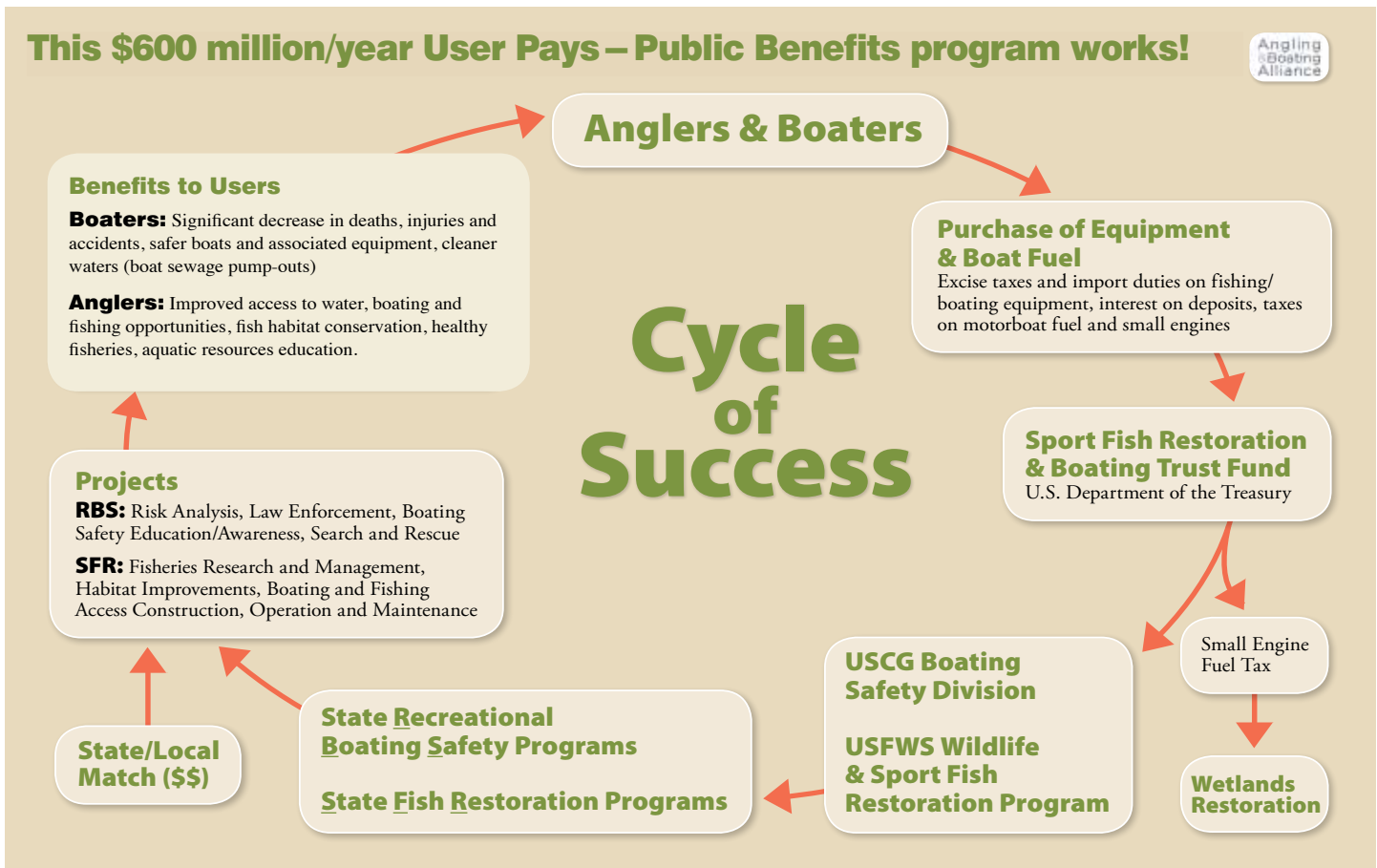
The Wallop-Breaux Act expanded the 10 percent excise tax to nearly all sportfishing products and captured the federal motorboat fuel taxes that were paid by boaters and anglers. This combination substantially increased the funds collected by the federal government to be returned to the states for fishing and boating-related projects.

In 2005, the Wallop-Breaux Act was reauthorized and the fund was renamed the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund (SFRBTF). The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) reauthorized the trust until October of 2014.

THE COMMUNITY:

There are an estimated 60 million anglers in this country, and an estimated 88 million boating participants.

The estimated number of boats in use reached 17 million in 2012, with about half of those boats using outboard engines.





SELECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Conservation (2004 - 2012)

- Stocked 3.8 billion fish
- Operated and maintained nearly 5,000 public fishing areas and facilities
- Acquired or leased 63,337 acres of fish habitat
- Improved and managed 63,549 acres of coastal wetlands
- Restored 6,484 acres of coastal wetland habitat

Access and Facilities (2004 - 2012)

- Constructed over 3,800 boating access sites
- Renovated or improved more than 7,400 boating access sites
- Operated and maintained over 3,000 boating access sites
- Constructed 1,171 tie-up facilities for transient boats >26'
- Constructed over 3,800 coastal boat and 2,200 inland boat sewage pumpout facilities

Education (2004 - 2012)

- Taught 4.7 million students in aquatic resource education
- Provided fishery habitat management assistance to 70,000 landowners
- Conducted life history and population surveys on sport fish nationwide

Safety (2012)

- 2,877,453 hours on-water enforcement by states
- 1,723,156 compliance checks by state law enforcement
- 93,691 total citations and on-water arrests
- 57,817 people in 24,578 vessels assisted by state law enforcement
- 10,225 Search and Rescue recovery cases
- 252,855 warnings issued by state law enforcement
- 491,525 persons successfully completing approved boating safety education courses

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

- Angling generates over \$47 billion in retail sales and a \$115 billion impact on the U.S. economy.
- Close to 1,000,000 jobs are supported by anglers, with salaries, wages, and business earnings of \$35 billion.
- Recreational boating generated \$30.8 billion in retail sales in 2012, with more than 572,000 new boats sold.
- In 2012, recreational boating directly and indirectly impacted 472,594 U.S. jobs with a payroll of \$16.2 billion.
- This Trust Fund's combined excise taxes and duties on the boating and fishing communities generate nearly \$600 million annually.

The Trust Fund is up for reauthorization as part of the Surface Transportation Bill. During that process, the Angling & Boating Alliance seeks to continue the full transfer of excise taxes attributable to motorboats from the Highway Trust Fund to the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund.



The Angling & Boating Alliance, a coalition of national recreational boating, angling, outdoor recreation organizations, conservation groups, and state boating safety and natural resources agencies, is committed to the sustainable future of the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund (“Trust Fund”).

In recognition of the importance of maintaining the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, the Angling and Boating Alliance (ABA) support the reauthorization of the Trust Fund with continued full funding.

The members of the Angling & Boating Alliance Steering Committee are:

American Sportfishing Association (ASA)

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA)

Association of Marina Industries (AMI)

B.A.S.S., LLC

Boat Owners Association of the United States (BoatU.S.)

Coastal Conservation Association (CCA)

Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation (CSF)

National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA)

National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA)

Marine Retailers Association of the Americas (MRAA)

State Organization for Boating Access (SOBA)

Trout Unlimited (TU)



Angling & Boating Alliance

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